

SUMMARY: Pursuant to sec. 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) regulations in CFR 1610.5-5, BLM proposes to amend the Resource Management Plan (RMP) for its Glenwood Springs Resource Area (GSRA). As described in a Notice of Intent published on April 21, 1997 (62 FR 19349), BLM has prepared a supplemental EIS on the impacts of oil and gas development in the GSRA. On March 17, 1998, an additional Notice of Intent (63 FR 13068) expressed BLM's intent to include lands in the Naval Oil Shale Reserves (NOSR) in the SEIS and the RMP amendment. That SEIS is now available for review and comment.

Copies of the SEIS will be available at the following BLM offices: the Glenwood Springs Resource Area Office, 50629 Highway 6 & 24, Glenwood Springs, Colorado, 81602; the Grand Junction District Office, 2815 H Road, Grand Junction, Colorado, 81506; and the Colorado State Office, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, Colorado, 80215.

DATES: Comments will be accepted until September 17, 1998. A public meeting on the SEIS will be held on July 7, 1998, from 3:00 to 8:00 PM in the Valley Senior Center, 540 Parachute Avenue, Parachute, Colorado, 81635.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to the Area Manager, Glenwood Springs Resource Area, Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 1009, Glenwood Springs, CO 81602, ATTN: Oil and Gas SEIS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steve Moore, (970) 947-2824

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A Notice of Intent to prepare a supplemental EIS on oil and gas leasing and development in the GSRA was published on April 21, 1997 (62 FR 19349). The EIS process indicated that some changes in the leasing decisions are necessary and that an RMP amendment will be required. After publication of that notice, the Department of Defense Authorization Act of 1998 (November 18, 1997) transferred management authority for the Naval Oil Shale Reserves (NOSR) from the Department of Energy to BLM. In addition to transferring management authority to BLM, the Act directs BLM to lease approximately 6,000 acres in the NOSR for oil and gas development by November 18, 1998. On March 17, 1998, BLM published an additional Notice of Intent (63 FR 13068) expressing its intent to include lands in the Naval Oil Shale Reserves (NOSR) in the oil and gas leasing SEIS and RMP amendment.

Among the issues identified and evaluated in the SEIS are: the effects on visual quality of gas development in highly visible terrain; the impact on riparian areas; the effects on wildlife and wildlife habitat; and the potential success of reclamation efforts in the arid environment.

Three alternatives were evaluated: The Continuation of Current Management Alternative, which would continue leasing and mitigation decisions adopted in a 1991 RMP amendment and extend them to the NOSR area to be leased;

The Maximum Protection Alternative, which would attempt to maximize mitigation measures regardless of the impact on gas production; and

The Proposed Action, which describes the GSRA's attempt to provide multiple resource management of oil and gas development.

Larry J. Porter,

Acting District Manager.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CO-018-1430-00]

Notice of Availability, Wolford Mountain Reservoir, Amended Record of Decision

AGENCY: Craig District Office, Kremmling Resource Area.

ACTION: Notice of Availability, Wolford Mountain Reservoir, Amended Record of Decision.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Section 102(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act, the Craig District prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and issued a Record of Decision (ROD), February 8, 1991, for the Muddy Creek Reservoir project, now referred to as the Wolford Mountain Reservoir project. The FEIS analyzed the impacts of storing water to the 7,500 foot elevation level. The ROD stated that 60,000 acre-feet of water would be stored up to the 7,485 elevation level. During construction, the Probable Maximum Flood Event was recalculated. This permitted the spillway to be redesigned to allow storage of an additional 6,000 acre-feet of water at a maximum elevation of 7,489 feet, an increase of four feet in elevation. The new pool elevation remains below the 7,500 foot elevation level analyzed in the FEIS. No additional "in basin" impacts were identified. "Out of basin" impacts are

mitigated by using the additional 6,000 acre-feet of storage as a "fish pool" from which the Colorado River Water Conservation District will make releases for the benefit of endangered fish species downstream in the Colorado River.

DATES: This notice announces the beginning of the 30 day review period.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the Amended Record of Decision should be sent to Linda M. Gross, Kremmling Area Manager, BLM, PO Box 68, Kremmling, CO 80459.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To obtain additional information or to receive a copy of the Amended Record of Decision, contact Jim Perry at (970) 724-3437.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Those individuals, organizations, and agencies with known interest in the proposal have been sent a copy of the Amended Record of Decision.

Mark T. Morse,

District Manager.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WY-060-1620-01; WYW141435]

Notice of Intent

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on a lease application received from Antelope Coal Company for Federal coal in the decertified Powder River Federal Coal Production Region, Wyoming, and Notice of Scoping on a modification to the lease application.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received a competitive coal lease application (WYW141435) from Antelope Coal Company (ACC) on February 14, 1997, for a tract containing approximately 177.5 million tons of Federal coal and including approximately 1,471 acres in an area adjacent to the company's Antelope Mine. ACC is a subsidiary of Kennecott Energy and Coal Company. The Antelope Mine is located in northern Converse County, Wyoming; the lease application area is located in Campbell and Converse Counties, Wyoming. The tract, which is referred to as the Horse Creek LBA Tract, was applied for as a maintenance tract lease-by-application (LBA) under the provisions of 43 Code of Federal